

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

ational Application No  
PCT/IB2004/001542

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
IPC 7 E01F9/06

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 E01F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4 747 981 A (ROBINSON JESSE L) 31 May 1988 (1988-05-31) column 3, line 32 - line 36 column 3, line 44 column 4, line 13 - line 16 column 5, line 2 - line 4 figures 1-4	1-16
Y	EP 0 486 168 A (MINNESOTA MINING & MFG) 20 May 1992 (1992-05-20) page 4, line 12 - line 22 page 5, line 49 - line 51 figures 1-4	1-16

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☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

\* Special categories of cited documents:

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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- \*O\* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- \*P\* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- \*T\* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- \*X\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- \*Y\* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- \*Z\* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search  22 September 2004	Date of mailing of the international search report  29/09/2004
Name and mailing address of the ISA European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Authorized officer  Geivaerts, D

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## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 043 656 A (KINGRAY INT LTD) 13 January 1982 (1982-01-13) page 11, line 13 - line 22 page 12, line 1 - line 4 page 15, line 1 - line 2 figure 2 -----	4-6, 12, 13, 15

# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 4747981	A	31-05-1988	NONE	
EP 0486168	A	20-05-1992	US 5069577 A	03-12-1991
			AT 119601 T	15-03-1995
			CA 2053023 A1	24-04-1992
			DE 69107961 D1	13-04-1995
			DE 69107961 T2	23-11-1995
			EP 0486168 A1	20-05-1992
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